

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study

Date: December 2, 2020

**Fulfilled – The Living Stone, The Stone the Builders Rejected,
the Cornerstone, and a Stone that Causes People to Stumble**

1 Peter 2:4-8, Isaiah 28:16-19, Psalm 118:22-24, Matthew 21:42-46, Isaiah 8:11-18

1. Read 1 Peter 2:4-8. In this text, Peter combines several different Old Testament images of a stone and applies them to Christ. They all mean a slightly different things that Peter is apparently applying to Jesus. Name them:
 - a. ...a chosen and precious _____ (verse 6).
 - b. The _____ the builders _____ [which the author says] has become the _____ (verse 7).
 - c. A _____ that causes people to _____ and a _____ that makes them _____ (verse 8).
2. Read Isaiah 28:16-19. The prophet Isaiah, in the surrounding text, is talking about his listeners' way of life and the things and people in whom we put our trust, which are not trustworthy. By contrast, the "stone" that the Lord lays in Zion will be different. What does Isaiah say about this stone?
 - a. It is a tested stone.
 - b. It is a sure foundation.
 - c. The one who relies on it will never be stricken with panic.
 - d. It will change your way of life...your covenant with death will be annulled.
3. If Peter is applying this text to Jesus, what does that mean to us? _____
4. Read Psalm 118:22-24 and Matthew 21:42-46. We read this Psalm on Sunday, but we didn't focus in on this section. What is the meaning of verse 22?
 - a. The cornerstone was the most important stone in the building. The rest of the building was measured from this spot and the wrong stone could cause the walls to be crooked.
 - b. In a time where building materials were not standardized and the builders had to shape stones and choose the stones they used in different places because they were not all the same, the right stone had to be chosen for this very important spot.
 - c. The builders, according to the Matthew text, were the religious leaders of the day...and they were rejecting the best stone in favor of different ones. Their ways were not God's ways.
 - d. God is a better builder and, according to Matthew 21:43, the kingdom of God was being taken from the religious leaders and God was choosing a different stone to put at the corner of His Kingdom.
5. Read Isaiah 8:11-18. What does the text seem to say about God?
 - a. His standards are different from the people of this world.
 - b. When we follow the people around us, the standard of God doesn't grow away. Rather, we seem to trip and fall over the true standard when we try to follow a different path.
6. How does this connect with the cornerstone talked about in the 1 Peter text and the Psalm & Matthew texts? _____
7. In what way does Christ cause people to stumble?
 - a. He tricks us into falling.
 - b. Like a plumb line (Amos 7:7-8), a cornerstone gives a reference of truth.
 - c. When we know the difference between right and wrong, we are responsible for our choices (Romans 7:7-9).
8. If Jesus is this stone that sets the standard and some stumble, what does that mean for us? ____